

RECOGNITION OF THE FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ON THE OCCA-
SION OF ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

JUNE 16, 2003.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. GOODLATTE, from the Committee on Agriculture,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.J. Res. 49]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Agriculture, to whom was referred the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 49) recognizing the important service to the Nation provided by the Foreign Agricultural Service of the Department of Agriculture on the occasion of its 50th anniversary, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the joint resolution do pass.

BRIEF EXPLANATION

H.J. Res. 49 recognizes the Foreign Agricultural Service of the Department of Agriculture and its employees and partners on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

PURPOSE AND NEED

The Foreign Agriculture Service (FAS) was founded on March 10, 1953, by Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson. It was the vision of Secretary Benson and President Dwight David Eisenhower that the FAS was needed for the development of external markets in order to ensure the financial viability of the agriculture sector of the United States and to develop and expand markets for United States agricultural commodities and products.

United States farmers and ranchers are the most productive in the world and produce much more than can be consumed in the United States. Therefore a vibrant export market is important to the success of United States agriculture. FAS has contributed to that success and as of 2002, United States agricultural exports exceed imports by more than \$12 billion. United States exports have

grown significantly over the history of FAS and now exceed \$50 billion per year.

FAS fosters the public and private partnership that is needed to promote United States agricultural exports and to develop and expand markets around the world.

At this important time when free trade negotiations are ongoing, both in the World Trade Organization and through bilateral negotiations, the FAS represents United States agriculture and ensures that the challenges facing our agriculture producers are thoroughly addressed.

Another responsibility of the FAS is to provide food aid to needy people in developing countries through USDA programs and to help those countries to eventually become trading partners of the United States and purchase U.S. agricultural products.

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

H.J. Res. 49 cites the FAS for representing U.S. agriculture interests for 50 years and acknowledges the benefits that have been seen as agriculture exports have risen from \$3 million in 1953 to over \$50 million in 2002.

The bill recognizes the FAS and its employees for:

- Cooperating with the agriculture community,
- Identifying private partners capable of carrying out the FAS mission,
- Identifying and expanding markets for U.S. agriculture products,
- Introducing innovative and creative ways of expanding markets for agriculture products,
- Providing international food assistance to feed the hungry worldwide,
- Addressing unfair barriers to United States agriculture exports,
- Implementing strict procedures governing the use of programs and funds for FAS, and
- Overseeing the efficient and effective use of federal funds to carry out programs.

COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION

The Committee on Agriculture met, pursuant to notice, with a quorum present, on May 8, 2003, to consider H.J. Res. 49, and other pending business.

Chairman Goodlatte called the meeting to order and without objection, H.J. Res. 49 was placed before the Committee and open for amendment at any point.

Chairman Goodlatte made a brief statement as did Ranking Member Stenholm on the resolution.

Mr. Smith of Michigan was recognized to ask a question on whether or not the Committee received any information to verify the resolution. Chairman Goodlatte told Mr. Smith of the reports received periodically from FAS that the Committee would be happy to share. Mr. Smith was satisfied with the response.

There being no amendment offered, Mr. Stenholm moved that H.J. Res. 49 be adopted and reported favorably to the House with the recommendation that it do pass.

By voice vote, the motion was agreed to in the presence of a quorum, H.J. Res. 49 was ordered favorably reported, without amendment to the House of Representatives.

The Committee then moved on to other pending business.

REPORTING THE BILL—ROLLCALL VOTES

In compliance with clause 3(b) of rule XIII of the House of Representatives, H.J. Res. 49 was reported by voice vote with a majority quorum present. There was no request for a recorded vote.

COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Agriculture's oversight findings and recommendations are reflected in the body of this report.

BUDGET ACT COMPLIANCE (SECTIONS 308, 402, AND 423)

The provisions of clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 308(a)(1) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (relating to estimates of new budget authority, new spending authority, new credit authority, or increased or decreased revenues or tax expenditures) are not considered applicable. The estimate and comparison required to be prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office under clause 3(c)(3) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and sections 402 and 423 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 submitted to the Committee prior to the filing of this report are as follows:

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, May 22, 2003.

Hon. BOB GOODLATTE,
*Chairman, Committee on Agriculture,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H.J. Res. 49, recognizing the important service to the nation provided by the Foreign Agricultural Service of the Department of Agriculture on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Greg Hitz.

Sincerely,

DOUGLAS HOLTZ-EAKIN,
Director.

Enclosure.

H.J. Res. 49—Recognizing the important service to the nation provided by the Foreign Agricultural Service of the Department of Agriculture on the occasion of its 50th anniversary

H.J. Res. 49 would recognize the Foreign Agricultural Service of the Department of Agriculture on the occasion of its 50th anniversary. CBO estimates that passage of this joint resolution would result in no significant cost to the federal government. The joint resolution contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as

defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact is Greg Hitz. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget and Analysis.

PERFORMANCE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

With respect to the requirement of clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the performance goals and objectives of this legislation recognize the important service to the Nation provided by the Foreign Agricultural Service of the Department of Agriculture on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 3(d)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee finds the Constitutional authority for this legislation in Article I, clause 8, section 18, that grants Congress the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested by Congress in the Constitution of the United States or in any department or officer thereof.

COMMITTEE COST ESTIMATE

Pursuant to clause 3(d)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee report incorporates the cost estimate prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to section 402 and 423 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE STATEMENT

No advisory committee within the meaning of section 5(b) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act was created by this legislation.

APPLICABILITY TO THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

The Committee finds that the legislation does not relate to the terms and conditions of employment or access to public services or accommodations within the meaning of section 102(b)(3) of the Congressional Accountability Act (Public Law 104-1).

FEDERAL MANDATES STATEMENT

The Committee adopted as its own the estimate of Federal mandates prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to section 423 of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (Public Law 104-4).

COMMITTEE CORRESPONDENCE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
Washington, DC, May 13, 2003.

Hon. HENRY J. HYDE,
Chairman, Committee on International Relations,
Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN HYDE: On May 8, 2003, the Committee on Agriculture ordered favorably reported, without amendment, H.J. Res.

49, a joint resolution recognizing the important service to the nation provided by the Foreign Agricultural Service of the Department of Agriculture on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

As you know, H.J. Res. 49 was referred primarily to the Committee on Agriculture, with an additional referral to the Committee on International Relations. Also, on April 7, 2003, the Senate passed a similar resolution, S. Res. 106 without amendment. Therefore, I respectfully request that the Committee on International Relations waive further consideration of H.J. Res. 49, to allow consideration by the full House of Representatives.

Of course, by allowing this action to occur, the Committee on International Relations does not waive its jurisdiction over this resolution or any other similar matter for all purposes.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

BOB GOODLATTE,
Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 15, 2003.

Hon. BOB GOODLATTE,
*Chairman, Committee on Agriculture,
Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC.*

DEAR BOB: Thank you for your letter requesting that the Committee on International Relations not insist on exercising its additional referral of H.J. Res. 49, a joint resolution recognizing the important service to the Nation provided by the Foreign Agricultural Service of the Department of Agriculture on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

As I am aware of your interest in expediting this legislation, I will be glad to waive further consideration of this measure in order to allow its timely consideration by the entire House of Representatives.

This action is not intended to waive this Committee's jurisdiction over this matter for all purposes, and I ask that you include this letter in the report to accompany H.J. Res. 49, or the Congressional Record during debate.

Thank you for your leadership on this issue, and I look forward to working with you again on matters of mutual interest.

Sincerely,

HENRY J. HYDE,
Chairman.